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HOUSE BILL 1464

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Representatives B. Thomas, Boldt, Dyer, Goldsmith, Beeksma and Thompson

Read first time 01/26/95. Referred to Committee on Education.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to educational grants; and adding a new section to
- 2 chapter 28A.200 RCW.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.200 5 RCW to read as follows:
- 6 In support of the tremendous sacrifices and contributions made by
- 7 the parents, guardians, or custodians of a child subject to this
- 8 section; to formally recognize the state's prior legislative delegation
- 9 of the responsibility to educate children to those conducting home-
- 10 based instruction; to redirect education funding to local levels; to
- 11 encourage educational competition and diversity; and to reduce the
- 12 costs of state education bureaucracy and administration, the state
- 13 establishes educational grants, to be administered as follows:
- 14 (1) The parents, guardians, or custodian of a child subject to this
- 15 section shall file at the end of each school year with the public
- 16 school district superintendent who holds the declaration of intent to
- 17 conduct home-based instruction, a statement certifying that the child
- 18 successfully completed that school year, or portion thereof, under
- 19 home-based instruction that is free from sectarian control or

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- 1 influence, and, if applicable, documentation of the parents', 2 guardians', or custodian's family income falling below the federal 3 poverty level.
- 4 (2) The public school district superintendent, based on the certification of subsection (1) of this section, shall, within thirty 5 days of receipt of the certification, request the state treasurer to 6 7 pay the parents, quardians, or custodian of each certified child twenty 8 percent of the average amount spent by the state toward the education 9 of each child enrolled in state public schools during the same school 10 year, and an additional twenty percent, based on the documentation in subsection (1) of this section, for each certified child if the child's 11 parents', guardians', or custodian's family income excluding these 12 13 educational grants, falls below the federal poverty level, all grants being proportionally reduced for partial attendance. 14
- 15 (3) The state treasurer, based on the request for payment under 16 subsection (2) of this section, shall, within thirty days of receipt of 17 the request, pay those amounts to the parents, guardians, or custodian 18 so identified by the public school district superintendent.
- 19 (4) Education grants under this section shall be awarded year-to-20 year for each certified child completing each year of home-based 21 instruction, or portion thereof, from kindergarten through twelfth 22 grade that is free from sectarian control or influence, beginning with 23 the 1994-95 school year.
- (5) Participation by parents, guardians, or custodians in these education grants is voluntary, and those not participating are exempt from the certification and documentation requirements in subsection (1) of this section and any state audits.
- (6) A home school shall be presumed to be free from sectarian 28 control or influence based on the certification of subsection (1) of 29 30 this section, and only minimum state controls shall be used to implement this section. Nothing in this section may be construed as 31 authorizing home visits, curriculum, or student or instructor 32 examinations by state employees, or increasing state controls of any 33 34 state agency or employee over any parent, guardian, custodian, or 35 child.

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- 1 (7) The certification and documentation procedures in subsection
- 2 (1) of this section, absent evidence of criminality, shall be the sole
- 3 basis of state audits of grants in this section.

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